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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Patrick KNEBEL

Examiner: Huisman, David J.

Serial No.: 09/496,844

Art Unit: 2183

Filed: 02/02/2000

(As Amended) METHOD AND COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR  
DECOMPOSING MACROINSTRUCTIONS INTO  
MICROINSTRUCTIONS AND EXECUTING THE  
MICROINSTRUCTIONS SIMULTANEOUSLY

**Box RCE**  
Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the December 20, 2002, Office Action, Applicant hereby requests continuing examination of the referenced application and encloses the requisite filing fee. In accordance with the RCE, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 10, and 12 to read as follows:

31. (Sub) (1) **1.** (Twice Amended) A method for processing software instructions comprising:  
decomposing a macroinstruction into a plurality of microinstructions,  
issuing all of the plurality of microinstructions simultaneously, in parallel,  
executing all of the plurality of microinstructions simultaneously, in lockstep using functional units in a floating point unit,  
determining whether an exception occurs in any of the microinstructions, before writing results of the executing to result registers, and  
if an exception occurs in any of the microinstructions, canceling all of the microinstructions and preventing the results of the executing from being written to the result registers, and  
if no exception occurs in any of the microinstructions, writing the results of the executing to the result registers.